UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION V**

DATE:

BO JAN 1987

SUBJECT:

McCook Lead Supply Incorporated Site Assessment, McCook, Illinois

Steven J. Faryan, On-Scene Coordinator

FROM:

Western Response Unit Steven J. Jayan

File

TO:

This memorandum references the site inspection conducted by the TAT on August 28, 1986, and subsequent site assessment report for the McCook Lead Supply, Incorporated, in McCook, Illinois.

The McCook Lead Supply, Incorporated, facility operated as a secondary lead smelter recycling lead bearing scrap materials to produce lead ingots at 7753 W. 47th Street in McCook, Illinois, until March 1984 when operations ceased.

Prior to July 31, 1985, this site was owned by Teracorp, Incorporated. As part of a plan of reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, McCook Lead Supply, Incorporated, was formed and is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Teracorp, Incorporated. To date, Teracorp has not submitted an approved closure plan for the McCook, Illinois facility as required by RCRA statutes. The Illinois EPA requested assistance from the U.S. EPA RCRA Enforcement Section to pursue these RCRA violations at the McCook facility. A Complaint and Compliance Order was issued to Teracorp and to McCook Lead Supply registered agent Mr. Tony Lindsay on August 1, 1986, for failure to comply with several cited RCRA violations, of which failure to submitt a closure plan was one. A hearing is being held in March of 1987 to resolve the violations stated in the order.

The U.S. EPA Emergency Response Section directed TAT to conduct a site assessment at the Teracorp facility upon concern by the Mayor of McCook of lead contamination migrating from the site. The TAT conducted a site assessment with Walter Francis of U.S. EPA's RCRA Enforcement Section on August 28, 1986. During the site assessment eleven samples were collected from designated areas around the site. The samples were analyzed under the National Contract Laboratory Program by Versar Incorporated and Rocky Mountain Analytical for Task 1 and 2 metals and EP Tox parameters.

The analytical data received from the TAT site assessment indicated high levels of lead ranging from 3% to 64% and EP Toxic concentrations of lead ranging from 500 to 1290 mg/l. Other metals detected included: asenic, 615 to 3330 ppm; cadmium, 16 ppm to 541 ppm; copper, 310 to 8450 ppm; magnesium, 2670 to 35700 ppm; and mercury, .34 to 10 ppm.

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Although these concentrations of metals are high, in particular the lead concentrations, typical concentrations of metals at a secondary smelting operation are characteristically high. Samples taken from another smelting operation at the St. Louis Lead Recyclers in Granite City, Illinois, indicated soil lead concentrations from 300,000 ppm on site and lead concentrations at 5,100 ppm off site.

This site is currently in enforcement proceedings with the U.S. EPA and IEPA's RCRA Sections. The TAT site assessment report and analytical data have been forwarded to the RCRA Section to further substantiate their pending enforcement case. Also, the Field Investigation Team is investigating the site and is in the process of scoring the site using the Hazard Ranking System.

No action is deemed necessary by the Emergency Response Section at this time since the case is currently pending RCRA enforcement and since the site is being scored for possible inclusion on the National Priorities List.